

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY USSR (Georgian SSR)

REPORT

25X1

SUBJECT Batumi Harbor

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1.

2.

PWs were seen engaged in road building in Batumi, which seemed to be utterly neglected. A large number of Soviet soldiers, including many women soldiers, most of whom carried weapons, were seen in the streets. No barracks installations were seen in the town.

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3. A Soviet destroyer docked in Batumi Harbor and took on oil on the evening of 11 November 1952. The vessel resembled the former German NARVIK-class destroyers. The ship had two funnels, one gun turret forward and one aft, and an unidentified number of torpedo tubes between the two funnels and between the aft funnel and the aft super-structures.

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Other ships in the harbor included two moderately old and neglected PT boats, which seemed to be unmanned, and a Soviet tanker of about 16,000 GRT. Soviet longshoremen said the tanker was a new ship. Three large Soviet merchant ships, equipped with radar, were berthed at the quay. two of them were former German ships of the

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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STATE	X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI	AEC										
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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[REDACTED] 25X1

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HAPAG-CORDILLERA-class: [REDACTED]
Their port of registry was Odessa.

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4.

[REDACTED] 25X1

1. [REDACTED] Comment: The destroyer cannot be fully identified from the scanty description given. It may have been a modified O-class, or an O-class vessel.

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Legend to Sketch

- 1a. Main jetty, revetted with stone flags on the sea front and reinforced with sheet piling on the harbor side. The upper side of the jetty is paved. The jetty is about 450 meters long, about 50 meters wide, and about 5 meters high.
- 1b. Jetty, about 200 meters long; for other dimensions see 1a.
2. Berth 25X1
3. Soviet tanker, of about 16,000 GRT 25X1
4. A Soviet destroyer docked at the jetty for fueling.
5. Watchtower, about 20 meters high and permanently manned by Soviet soldiers. The tower was equipped with a searchlight.
6. Oil line which ran from the refinery (9) to the marshaling yard (8) as an overhead line, ran below across the marshaling yard, and then continued to the jetty as an overhead line.
7. Taps on oil line.
8. Marshaling yard; heavy day and night traffic of tank cars was observed. The number of spurs was not determined.
- 8a. Harbor spur track from the marshaling yard.
9. Fuel depot. It was impossible to determine the exact number of fuel tanks. The depot was dirty and neglected.
- 9a. Barbed wire fence around the depot.
10. A brick wall, three or four meters high. This wall runs around the entire harbor; another wall extends around the marshaling yard.
- 10a. Gate leading to the jetty, probably the only one. It was guarded.
- 10b. Living quarters of the Soviet Harbor Guard.
11. Three storage sheds; plain wooden sheds on concrete foundations about one meter above the ground. No cranes were seen.
12. Three Soviet merchant vessels berthed in front of the three storage sheds.
13. Navy arsenal, consisting of a long wooden shed on a concrete foundation and two small workshop sheds. Buoys, anchors, and sheet metal were seen in front of the sheds. Crane installations were not observed. The Navy arsenal area was separated by a low brick wall from the merchant harbor. There was a passage only for the harbor spur track. The Navy arsenal looked rather neglected.
14. Two PT boats at the quay of the navy arsenal. they were obsolete, decommissioned vessels. There were no crews seen aboard. 25X1
15. Batumi town district.

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